

Japanese American Historic Context

Community Outreach Meeting
May 6, 2017



Architectural
Resources Group

HISTORIC
RESOURCES
GROUP

SurveyLA
Los Angeles Historic Resources Survey

Los Angeles Department of City Planning

Historic Context Project Overview

- Project: Develop Asian American Historic Contexts for Los Angeles' Citywide Historic Context Statement and SurveyLA
- Funding: \$72,000 National Park Service Under Represented Communities Grant
- Timeline: March 2016 to March 2018
- Project Manager: Office of Historic Resources
- Consultant: Architectural Resources Group
 - Sub-consultant: Historic Resources Group



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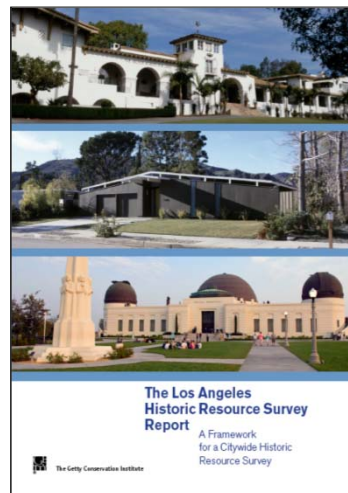
Project Overview

- Products:
 - One (1) National Register Multiple Property Documentation (MPD) form covering five (5) contexts:
 - Chinese American
 - Japanese American
 - Filipino American
 - Korean American
 - Thai American
 - One (1) National Register Nomination under the MPD (TBD)
 - may submit more than one
- Process: Hearing before the California State Historical Resources Commission

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SurveyLA

- Citywide Historic Resources Survey
- Joint project of the City and Getty
- Managed by the Office of Historic Resources
- Surveys completed 2016
- Surveys guided by the Citywide Historic Context Statement
- Identified properties of architectural, social, historical, ethnic, and cultural significance



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Historic Contexts

- A historic context is a narrative document that provides the framework for identifying and evaluating important extant historic resources
- Critical tool for protecting resources that reflect the varied and complex history of Los Angeles
- Not definitive histories of any topic -
 - Focus on the historic themes that shaped the built environment we see today



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Context & Surveys Identify:

- Buildings
- Structures
- Objects
- Sites
- Cultural Landscapes
- Historic Districts

...that are associated with important people, events, historic trends, activities, organizations, etc.



Los Angeles Hampa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, HCM #313
109-119 N. Central Avenue



Site of Tuna Canyon, HCM #1039
6433 W. La Tuna Canyon Road



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SurveyLA Historic Context Statement

SurveyLA Citywide Historic Context Statement
organized into nine contexts:

- Spanish Colonial and Mexican Era Settlement
- Pre-Consolidation Communities of Los Angeles
- Residential Development and Suburbanization
- Commercial Development
- Public and Private Institutional Development
- Architecture and Engineering
- The Entertainment Industry
- Cultural Landscapes
- Industrial Development



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SurveyLA Historic Context Statement

- Each context includes numerous themes and sub-themes:
 - Ethnic/Cultural themes are woven throughout
- Covers the period from 1850-1980
 - For purposes of the National Register end date is 1969 (50 years)
- Citywide in scope



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Citywide Historic Context Statement

All contexts are completed in the same format and their content is consistent

LOS ANGELES CITYWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXT STATEMENT	
Context: Jewish History	
TABLE OF CONTENTS	
PREFACE	4
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Theme 1: Religion and Spirituality, 1850 - 1980	34
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GLOSSARY	147
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY	151

See sample completed themes at: <http://preservation.lacity.org/historic-context>

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Japanese American Historic Context

- Historical Overview:
 - Immigration to Southern California, 1869-1910
 - Settlement in Southern California, 1911-1924
 - Stabilization and Community Development, 1935-1940
 - Forced Removal and Incarceration, 1941-1944
 - Resettlement, 1945-1959
 - Dispersion and Upward Mobility, 1960-1968
 - Toward Redress, 1969-1988
- Relevant Contexts and Themes
- List of designated and known extant resources
- Bibliography

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Residential Development and Suburbanization

- Theme: Ethnic Enclaves



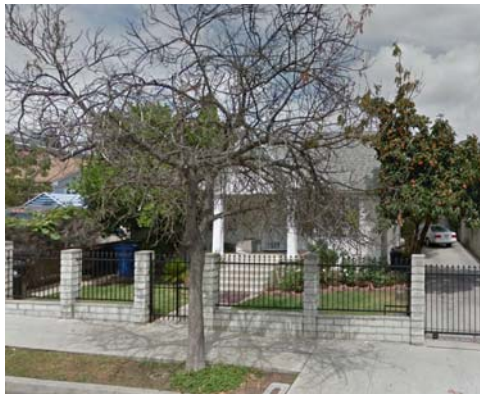
Postwar Multi-Family and Single-Family
S. Bronson and S. Norton Ave.

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Residential Development and Suburbanization

- Theme: Deed Restrictions and Segregation



Aiso Residence, site of Anti-Japanese Hollywood Protective Association protests c.
1915, 1406 Tamarind Avenue

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Commercial Development

- Theme: Commercial Identity



S.K. Uyeda, 230 E. First Street



Otomisan Japanese Restaurant, 2506 E. First Street



Y. Enomoto Grocery/M.G. Lawnmower, 4569 S. Centinela Ave.



JO-MI Plumbing, 2011 S. Sawtelle Blvd.

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Commercial Development

- Theme: Commercial Identity
Nurseries



O.K. Nursery, 1941 S. Sawtelle Blvd.



Sego Nursery, 12116 W. Burbank Blvd.

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Commercial Development

- Theme: Commercial Identity
Neighborhood Markets



Stop and Shop, Isao and Harue
Santa Monica Blvd and St. Andrews Place c. 1930.



Far East Market, 8848 Lankershim Blvd.

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Commercial Development

- Theme: Commercial Identity
Banks and Financial Institutions



Wada & Asato Insurance Agency (1966, Joseph J. Takahashi)
3116 W. Jefferson Blvd.



Sumitomo Bank (1967, Kajima/Victor Gruen Asso.)
1st and San Pedro Street

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Commercial Development

- Theme: Post WWII Commercial Recreation



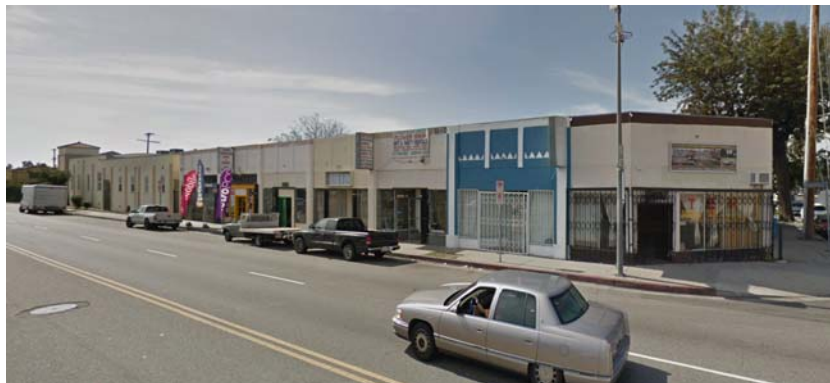
Holiday Bowl, 3730 S. Crenshaw, HCM #688

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Commercial Development

- Theme: Commercial Merchants, Builders, and Leaders



Seinan Commercial Block, 3551, 3553, 3555, 3557, 3557 1/2, 3561, 3563 S. Normandie Avenue (1930) owned by Takejiro Kusayanagi.

Source: USC Digital Library

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Commercial Development

- Theme: Commercial Signs



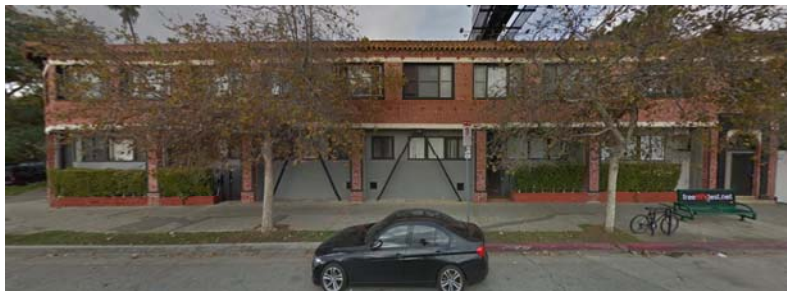
Kashu Realty Sign, 3112 W. Jefferson Blvd.

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Military Institutions and Activities

- Theme: World War II and the American Homefront



Civil Control Center, 923 Venice Blvd.

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Industrial Development

- Theme: Agricultural Roots
- Theme: Garments and Textiles
- Theme: The Port of Los Angeles



Union Knitting Co., c. 1930s, 100 Weller Street



Fish Harbor Canneries c. 1930

Source: U.S. Library of Congress, USA

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: The Entertainment Industry

(Includes Motion Pictures, Music, Radio, and Television)



Tsuruko Aoki (1892-1911)



Sessue Hayakawa (1869-1973)



James Shigeta (1929-2014)

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Cultural Landscapes

- Theme: Japanese Style Gardens



Yamashiro Japanese Garden, HCM #921, 1999 Sycamore Avenue



Hannah Carter Japanese Garden, 10619 Bellagio Road

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Public and Private Institutional Development

- Theme: Religion and Spirituality



Senshin Gaukin II Temple (c. 1936)
1340 W. 36th Place



San Fernando Valley Hongwanji Buddhist
Temple (1961), 9450 Remick Ave.



Methodist Episcopal Church (1925)
3500 S. Normandie Ave.

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Public and Private Institutional Development

- Theme: Education and Ethnic/Cultural Associations
- Theme: Social Clubs and Cultural Institutions



Rafu Daini Gakuen, c. 1930s, 1035 Fedora Street



Tenrikyo Gallery, 117/129 N. Saratoga Street

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Public and Private Institutional Development

- Theme: Social Clubs and Cultural Institutions



San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center (1959)
12953 Branford Street



Japanese American Community and Cultural Center (1978)
244 S. San Pedro Street

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Public and Private Institutional Development

- Theme: Public and Private Health and Medicine
 - Important Persons in LA's Medical History



Japanese Hospital, 101 S. Fickett Street, HCM #1131



Dr. Akira Kawabe's Office c. 1930s, 707 E. Washington Blvd.

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Public and Private Institutional Development

- Theme: Cultural Development and Institutions
(includes performing arts, visual arts, literature)



Shiraro Photo Studio (c. 1938), 568 N. Virgil Street



Garden Basket No. 2, 1231 S. Pacific Avenue



Painter Masami Teraoka (1936-present), associated with 3532 Grandview Boulevard

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Public and Private Institutional Development

- Theme: Civil Rights



Sei Fuji, USC Law Class, 1911



Site of Storefront Community Center, 2826 W. Jefferson Blvd.

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Public and Private Institutional Development

- Theme: Newspapers and Publishing



Komai Residence, 1346 W. 37th Street,

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context: Public and Private Institutional Development

- Theme to be determined



Ujiro Oyama Residence, 1512 Hobart Street

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Japanese American Contexts and Themes

Context to be determined-

Boarding/Rooming houses



Prewar Rooming House for Japanese Men
564 N. Virgil Avenue



Prewar Rooming House for maintenance gardeners
1511 W. 35th Place

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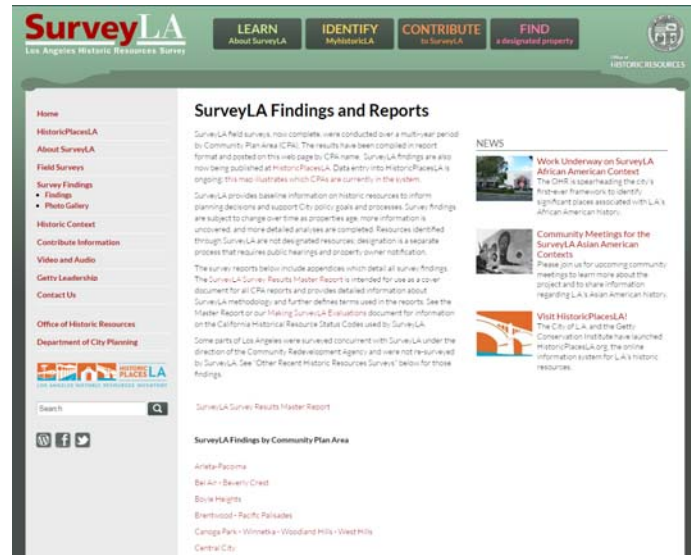
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The rooming house would not be under ethnic enclaves nor would the sign. Add the correct theme to reflect these

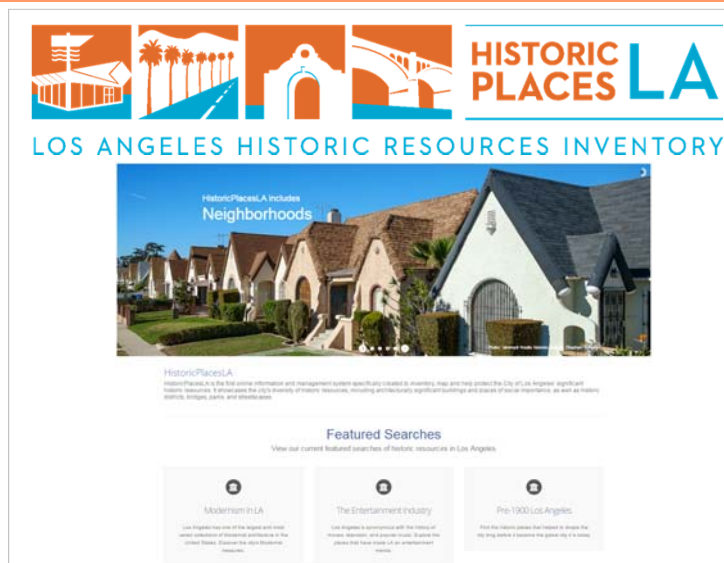
Janet Hansen, 5/4/2017

Publishing SurveyLA: SurveyLA.org



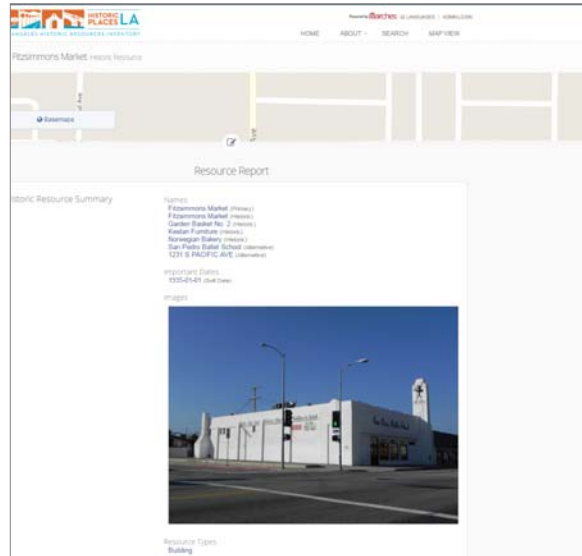
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Publishing SurveyLA



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Publishing Results



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How can you contribute?

- Review list of designated and known resources
- Let us know about any themes/topics not addressed
- Let us know about important places or people we missed
 - Provide source information for verification

Submitting Information

- Contact OHR: Sara Delgadillo Cruz or Janet Hansen (email or phone)
- Fill out and submit MyHistoricLA form (hard copy) or online

<http://preservation.lacity.org/survey/myhistoricla-historic-resource-identification-form>

Submit information by end of June

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